

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MARCH OF DIMES PREMATURITY CAMPAIGN

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the March of Dimes on the launch of a national campaign to address the rising rate of premature births.

Today in America, more than 1,300 babies will be born too soon. Premature birthrates have risen to the highest level ever reported in the United States. In fact, a staggering one in eight babies are born preterm. And in my home State of Illinois, some 20,000 babies were born premature last year alone.

On January 30th, the March of Dimes will launch a 5-year, national research, education and awareness campaign that seeks to prevent premature birth. This campaign holds the promise of considerably reducing the rate of prematurity throughout our nation. And the reasons for doing so are clear—babies born prematurely bear an elevated risk of serious long-term health problems. Moreover, premature birth represents the leading cause of infant death in the first month of life.

I commend the March of Dimes for their efforts on behalf of the health and wellbeing of our nation's unborn children and their families. I am hopeful that this campaign will successfully and dramatically reduce the rate of preterm births in America.

HONORING VARDA WENDROFF

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Varda Wendroff, who was recognized on Saturday, January 18, 2002, by the Richard A. Rutkowski Association at a gala dinner-dance at the Hi-Hat Caterers.

An innovative and passionate teacher for over twenty years, Varda Wendroff is currently the director of World Languages, ESL, and Bilingual Education for the Bayonne public school system.

Varda Wendroff has given her heart and soul to the community of Bayonne. The loss of her daughter, Lauren, and her family's firsthand experience in the Holocaust influenced and greatly impacted her life, making her an admired healer, educator, and role model for the community. She has truly given back to Bayonne, by investing in the families and the young people of our community.

A two-year president of the Jewish Community Center and member of the Bayonne United Jewish Federation, Varda Wendroff teaches Holocaust studies for the United Jewish Appeal, and assists with the Lauren

Wendroff Early Enrichment Program and the organization's camp. As a member, and current co-leader of the Compassionate Friends, a national and international organization helping parents to cope with the loss of a child, she has been helped and continues to help parents cope with their grief.

Some of Mrs. Wendroff's honors include finalist for Teacher of the Year; recipient of the Governor's Teachers of Excellence award; and, listed in the "Who's Who Among America's Teachers," awarded by her students for her selfless dedication to teaching and her lasting influence on their lives.

Varda Wendroff earned her B.A. degree from Montclair State University, and M.A. from New Jersey City University.

Varda Wendroff and her husband, Arnie, have a son, Jason, and daughter-in-law, Tracy.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Varda Wendroff for being a guiding light in the lives of our youth and an inspiration to all of us.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE DOUG BOVIN

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, would like to pay tribute today to Doug Bovin, a former representative to the Michigan House of Representatives from the 108th District, which is comprised of three counties in my congressional district.

First elected to the House in 1998, Doug Bovin has just concluded his service in that body after seeking election to the Michigan State Senate. Doug has represented both the community where I grew up and the community where I and my family now live.

Born August 24, 1944, Doug earned bachelor and master degrees in business administration from Northern Michigan University. He and his wife, Bonnie, have two children. Doug has been a business owner and a high school instructor and coach in addition to his lengthy career in public service.

Prior to being elected to the Michigan House of Representatives, Doug served as chair of the Delta County Board of Commissioners for 16 years and 9 years on the Gladstone city council, including 4 years as mayor.

With Doug's longtime service in county government came leadership positions in various organizations, including terms as president of the Michigan Association of Counties and the National Association of Counties. As president of the Michigan Association of Counties, Doug had the opportunity to introduce President Bill Clinton, when Mr. Clinton spoke to members of the association.

Doug represented the same district that I represented in the Michigan House of Rep-

resentatives. Having made the lengthy drive back and forth from Lansing to the central Upper Peninsula on a weekly basis while a State representative, I know the long solitary hours of driving Doug put in to represent the 108th District. To emphasize what a long drive it really is, you feel like you are close to home when you get across the Mackinac Bridge on your way back to the district, even though there are still over 100 miles to go.

Doug diligently represented the men and women of Delta, Menominee, and Dickinson Counties in Lansing.

In addition to working as an elected official, a business owner and an educator, Doug served as Executive Director of Operation Action U.P. Given his experience and dedication, I am certain that Doug will find a way to continue to serve the residents of the Upper Peninsula.

Mr. Speaker, Doug's last day as a State representative was January 2, 2003. Doug is too young a man for retirement and I am certain that he will find a way to continue to serve the residents of northern Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in saluting Doug Bovin, a public servant who has spent much of his life in service to others.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO REPEAL SELECTIVE SERVICE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing legislation to repeal the Selective Service Act and related parts of the United States Code. The Department of Defense, in response to recent calls to reinstate the draft, has confirmed that conscription serves no military need. This is only the most recent confirmation that the draft, and thus the Selective Service system, serves no military purpose. In 1999, then-Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera, in a speech before the National Press Club, admitted that "Today, with our smaller, post-cold-war Armed Forces, our stronger volunteer tradition and our need for longer terms of service to get a good return on the high, up-front training costs, it would be even harder to fashion a fair draft."

Obviously, if there is no military need for the draft, then there is no need for Selective Service registration. Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, Selective Service registration is an outdated and outmoded system, which has been made obsolete by technological advances.

In fact, in 1993, the Department of Defense issued a report stating that registration could be stopped "with no effect on military mobilization and no measurable effect on the time it would take to mobilize, and no measurable effect on military recruitment." Yet the American taxpayer has been forced to spend over \$500 million dollars on an outdated system "with no measurable effect on military mobilization!"

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.